

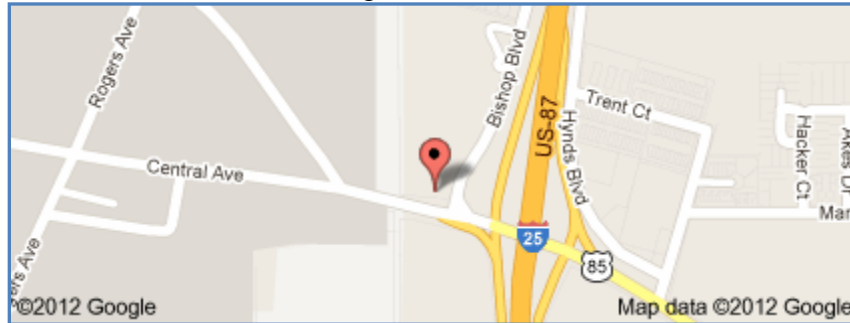


Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program

Dated: July 24, 2012

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Elk Room, Wyoming Game & Fish Department
5400 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82006
(Just West of Interstate-25 at the Central Avenue exit (Exit 12))
August 7-8, 2012



NOTE: *Those who have the lead for the agenda items listed below are expected to post a synopsis of your report on the fws-colorriver list-server or to the Management Committee in advance of the meeting. All on the Committee will recognize prior access to information facilitates a more efficient meeting, so please comply with this request if possible.*

Tuesday, August 7

CONVENE: 1:00 p.m.

1. Introductions, review/modify agenda and time allocations, and appoint a timekeeper (5 min.)
– *The Committee will consider the agenda, allotted time for each item, and make any necessary additions or revisions.*
2. Approve [March 21, 2012](#), [April 20, 2012](#), and [June 26, 2012](#) web meeting summaries and review previous meeting assignments (Attachment 1) (All, 20 min.)
3. Technical Committee Reports
 - a. Information and Education Committee (Randy Hampton) (10 min)
 - b. Biology Committee (Melissa Trammell) (10 min)

(Jana Mohrman will provide the Water Acquisition Committee report under item 7.a.)
4. Nonnative Fish Update (Martinez) (15 min)
5. Nonnative fish: our greatest challenge? (Chart, Shields, Martinez) (15 min) – *The Information & Education Committee recently suggested that the Program be explicit that nonnative aquatic species are currently the greatest impediment to recovering the endangered fishes. Although the Service's annual Sufficient Progress memoranda, Program*

Work Plans, and the general Program discourse for the past several years reflects this fact, the Program has not stated it explicitly. Would the Program benefit by more formally acknowledging or otherwise formally recognizing this fact? What are the pros and cons of the Program taking such a position? What is the most effective means to take such a position? If desired, the PDO could prepare a statement and/or backgrounder for Implementation Committee consideration and endorsement.

6. Procedure for review/approval of flow recommendations (Chart, Wigington, all) (20 min) – *The recent completion of the Price River position paper (which was something of a hybrid document rather than strictly a flow recommendation) shed light on the need to review the Program’s process for approving/accepting flow recommendations. The PDO will provide a review of how past flow recommendation were handled and the Committee will discuss the appropriate approach to pending White River flow recommendations as well as what might result from Park Service studies and/or review (per RIPRAP) of the need for instream flow filings or other flow protection mechanisms on the Yampa River).*
7. Updates
 - a. Hydrology and Reservoir/Unit operations(Mohrman) (25 min)
 - (i) Water Acquisition Committee report
 - (ii) Aspinall Unit Operations
 - (iii) Flaming Gorge Unit Operations
 - b. 10,825 Alternatives (Pitts) (5 min)
 - c. Capital projects (Uilenberg, 30 min)
 - Horsethief Native Fish Facility
 - OMID
 - Price Stubb
 - Ouray wells
 - San Juan Program projects
 - d. 5-year species status reviews and recovery plans, teams, and timeframes (Chart, 10 min)
 - e. Section 7 Consultation (Kantola, 15 min)
 - Review sufficient progress action items (*See Attachment 2*) – *The Committee will review the list and confirm leads and due dates*
 - Updated consultation list – *A list through June 30, 2012 will be provided soon.*
 - Section 7 funds update – *Through March 31, 2012, \$687K was available in the NFWF-managed Section 7 funds account with \$151K of that amount now spent or obligated (Elkhead water lease, GJ Pipe site weir materials, recovery goals technical assistance). Additional potential new expenditures include White River Management Plan consulting, continued standardization of the electrofishing fleet, recovery goals technical assistance, water rights consulting and geomorphology peer review. Other items (pending need and Committee approval) might include supplementing a small portion of the cost of the March 2013 Program-specific electrofishing training course, and conducting a public attitudes survey about the Program.*

ADJOURN: 4:30 p.m.

BBQ and Evening Social Event: Begins at 5:30 p.m.

*All Management Committee members, meeting attendees and guests are invited to attend a catered meal social event beginning at 5:30 p.m. at John & Janelle Shields' home located at: [7535 Jessica Drive](#) in northwest Cheyenne. A head-count is needed for the caterer – who must be given the information several days before the event so **please, please RSVP for the event by sending an e-mail to John Shields at: john.shields@wyo.gov**. See Attachment 3 for more details.*

Wednesday, August 8
CONVENE: 9:00 a.m.

Updates, continued:

8. Legislation and Congressional activities – *The Committee will discuss: the status of annual funding legislation; FY 2013 Program-related funding within Reclamation and Service appropriations bills; and FY 2013 funding plans, (Pitts, Shields, Uilenberg 45 min)*
9. FY13 Work Plan –Update (Kantola, Chart) (15 min) – *FY 2013 is the second year of the two-year FY12-13 work plan and the budget appears very tight. Final funding amounts won't be known until outcome of the legislation is known and the October 2011 – September 2012 CPI is released (which is used to calculate the power revenue contribution to annual funds). Opportunities to fund contingency projects would appear minimal, but projects which might be considered if funds were available include: sediment monitoring (including development of a plan); floodplain site monitoring/management; FR-115 synthesis report; Lake Powell sampling; and chemical reclamation to eradicate nonnative fishes at Thunder Ranch and perhaps other locations.*
10. Development of September 19, 2012, Implementation Committee agenda. (All, 10 min)) *The Committee will discuss agenda items for the Implementation Committee meeting, which will include:*
 - Approve March 5, 2012, conference call summary
 - Program Director's update (including low flow and nonnative fish management updates)
 - Recovery plans update
 - Review of sufficient progress items
 - Legislative/funding update
 - Capital projects update
 - FY 13 work plan update (second year of 2-year work plan)
 - Southern Rockies LCC update
11. Upcoming Management Committee tasks, schedule next meeting. (All, 10 min). *The Committee will schedule its next meeting, webinar, and/or conference call (typically held in October or November).*

ADJOURN: by 12:00 p.m.

Attachment 1

Previous Meeting Assignments

1. The **Management Committee** will consider naming a floodplain site for Pat Nelson. *The Service's Grand Junction field office is considering what might be an appropriate location. We do have a memorial to Pat on the pikeminnow bench at Walter Walker SWA.*
2. **Tom Pitts** will work with **Clayton Palmer and Brent Uilenberg** and provide a list of additional Program contributions to be added to the Program's budget pie chart that appears in each year's briefing book. *In process.* For the 2012 *Program Highlights*, we used the \$37.4M annualized estimate. By July 2012, **WAPA** will complete modeling and report actual power replacement costs going back to 2001. Subsequently, **WAPA** will provide annual power replacement cost for the previous year each January for inclusion in the *Program Highlights* pie charts. Those pie charts will include a footnote explaining the calculation and assumptions. **Program participants** will identify other significant costs that have not previously reported (e.g., the Granby component of 10,825 which is estimated at \$16M, \$1.25M contributed by Colorado for GVWM and \$1.5M for OMID, CRWCD contributed property for OMID, etc.). **Tom Chart** will ask **Dave Campbell** to work with the SJCC to determine their additional costs not currently reported. *1/30/12: Tom Pitts provided additional costs to be included in the briefing book pie chart; need to follow up with documentation for the record. 3/21/12: Clayton will be asking modelers/analysts to look at economic impact of re-operation of Flaming Gorge Dam beginning in FY2001. Tom Pitts said P.L. 106-392 recognizes power replacement costs as non-reimbursable; is that the same thing as economic costs? John Shields asked why not include the ~7 years of "study flows" preceding 2001. Clayton will do both, since Flaming Gorge was originally reoperated in water year 1991 (a separate table for 2001 and forward will be included responding specifically to the P.L. 106-392). Clayton also will include analysis to show the year in which FG was reoperated under the new EIS (2006 to present). John said he and Robert were asked about retail power cost levels yesterday; Leslie doesn't believe that can be reported since each individual utility has a different amount of hydropower in their mix. Tom Pitts suggested setting up a work group of himself, Leslie, Clayton, Robert Wigington, Angela Kantola and/or Tom Chart; Tom Pitts will send out preliminary materials. 6/26/12: Work group held conference call 4/27/12; Argonne working on power replacement costs, water users working on their additional costs, San Juan also working on their additional costs. 6/22/12: Clayton provided the group a description of how they'll conduct the economic analysis of Flaming Gorge dam reoperation.*
3. **Brent Uilenberg** will modify the OMID scope of work to reflect the ITRC contract to design the SCADA system. The **PD's office** will post the revised SOW to the web. *Pending; Brent Uilenberg will provide a copy of the contract to append to the SOW.*
4. The **Program Director's office** will work with Jerry Wilhite and Clayton Palmer on FY12 work plan items which Western may help fund. *Done; Western funded surveying levee breach elevations.*
5. **Brent Uilenberg and Dave Speas** will discuss the possibility of using "activities to avoid jeopardy" funds on the Elkhead screen repair.

6. The **Program Director's Office** will prepare a timeline for the recovery plans.
7. The **Biology Committee** will discuss the possibility of using a weir in the White River.
Pending; the Program Director's office is preparing information for Biology Committee discussion on October 16.
8. The **Program Director's office** will post the final Price River position paper to the Program's website. *Pending.*

Attachment 2

Action Items from the [2012 Sufficient Progress Memo](#)

July 24, 2012

General – Upper Basin-wide				
#	Recommended Action Items	Lead	Due Date	Status
1	The Service will make a recommendation for how to ensure that all new petroleum pipelines have emergency shutoff valves and will investigate the use of the Pipeline Integrity Management Mapping Application (PIMMA) to address existing pipelines potentially needing shutoff valves (e.g., pipelines upstream of or near critical or other important habitat).	FWS	12/31/12	
2	The Program Director's office is working with the Nonnative Fish Subcommittee and signatories to the Nonnative Fish Stocking Procedures to address comments on the draft <i>Upper Colorado River Basin Nonnative and Invasive Aquatic Species Prevention and Control Strategy</i> . Following "internal" review by the Recovery Program's Biology and Management committees, the Program will seek external peer review prior to accepting the <i>Strategy</i> as final.	Program	To Biology Committee by July 2013.	A subgroup of the I&E Committee will refine comments on the I&E section of the <i>Strategy</i> and then have a conference call with the Nonnative Fish Subcommittee. Update of steps leading to completion will be provided to Management and Biology committees in Autumn 2012.
3	The Service recommends that the Recovery Program carefully review the applicability of proposed screens for nonnative fish on a case-by-case basis and scrutinize screen designs, including projected operation and maintenance costs in the future. And, that the Recovery Program fully recognizes that screens are only a component of a multi-faceted nonnative fish control strategy (e.g., one that adheres to the NNF Stocking Procedures, promotes compatible sportfisheries, and prevents new nonnative fish threats).	<i>Nonnative Fish Stocking Procedures</i> signatories	Ongoing	
4	Revised Integrated Stocking Plan needs to be completed.	PDO	12/31/12	Draft sent to <i>ad hoc</i> group on April 13, 2012; conference call held May 9, 2012. Next draft to <i>ad hoc</i> group by mid-September.
5	The Program Director's Office will monitor results from ongoing humpback chub population estimates (Deso-Gray 2010-2011; Black Rocks and Westwater 2011-2012 and monitoring (Cataract Canyon annual CPUE; Yampa River information gathered through nonnative fish management projects). The Program Director's Office convened a panel to discuss humpback chub genetics and captivity and identify actions necessary to ensure the survival and recovery of humpback chub and an implementation plan for those actions in 2011. 200 age-0 Gila will be brought into captivity from Black Rocks/Westwater in 2012 (relates to broodstock development once fish are determined to be humpback chub).	PDO, Service, UDWR	Deso-Gray data reported annually; Black Rocks draft final report due 8/1/13; Westwater draft final report due FY13.	Results reviewed annually. Bringing age-0 <i>Gila</i> from Black Rocks into captivity planned for Autumn 2012.

Green River				
6	An RFP for a 2012-2013 mortality study and literature review is anticipated in April 2012. Meanwhile, Program participants are investigating the potential for an electrical barrier at the head of the canal as one option to reduce or eliminate entrainment (and thus, "take") of fish in the canal.	Tusher Wash <i>ad hoc</i> group.		No response to RFP (and so it's been dropped); Biology Committee discussed in July, will review options again in October; Tusher Wash <i>ad hoc</i> group continues to review and discuss options.
7	Red Fleet Reservoir has been recommended for reclamation (rotenone). A microchemical analysis of otoliths from both the reservoir and the river is underway to better understand the contribution of walleye to critical habitat from this potential source population.	UDWR		Otoliths processed; draft report in review; data will be included in draft final C18/19 report due October 1, 2012.
Yampa River				
8	CWCB is scheduled to complete accounting of past depletions using the StateCU model by the spring of 2012. The depletion accounting report will include a discussion of the need for flow protection (which would require a peak flow recommendation). The Water Acquisition Committee will continue to discuss the need for a peak flow recommendation.	CWCB, WAC	June 2012	
9	CSU will complete the programmatic synthesis of smallmouth bass removal efforts , providing a comprehensive evaluation of the Program's removal efforts as well as a thorough assessment of escapement from Elkhead Reservoir (draft final report due to Recovery Program 8/31/2012). The Recovery Program will review the final report on escapement from Elkhead Reservoir and determine appropriate adaptive-management response. CSU also is conducting a programmatic synthesis of northern pike removal efforts (2011-2012) to evaluate current removal efforts in the context of northern pike life history throughout the Yampa River drainage (draft final report due to Recovery Program 6/30/13).	CSU, Program, CPW	Draft final smallmouth bass synthesis report due 8/31/12.	The programmatic synthesis report will consist of three parts and each will be separately peer-reviewed. Part 1, Elkhead escapement has been peer reviewed. Part 2, Population Dynamics is due October 1, 2012, and Part 3, Projection Tool, will follow shortly thereafter. The three parts will then be finalized in one document. The NNFSC continues to evaluate opportunities and priorities for applying appropriate responses to source populations.
10	Native fish conservation areas are being evaluated as part of the draft basinwide nonnative fish strategy. Subsequently, applicability to the Yampa River will be evaluated.	Program, CPW		See item #2 re: <i>Basinwide Strategy</i> .
11	CPW has detailed its ongoing and anticipated pike management actions throughout the drainage in its 2010 'Yampa River Basin Aquatic Wildlife Management Plan (CDOW 2010).' CPW will tabulate these activities for the Program Director's Office and, based upon Program Office feedback, will provide management objectives and actions for any waters within the drainage that CPW and the Program Office mutually agree are inadequately addressed by the 2010 Plan.	CPW		Pending.
White River				
12	A working draft <i>Flow Recommendations for the Endangered Fish of the White River, Colorado and Utah</i> was sent to the Biology	PDO	Summer 2012.	Pending

	and Water Acquisition committees and GRUWAT on July 1, 2011. Conflicting comments were received. A revised draft is expected by midsummer 2012. Work on a PBO is anticipated subsequent to report approval.			
13	Program scheduled to begin specific effort to remove smallmouth bass in 2012. CPW will propose plans to removing bag limit for smallmouth bass (and possibly other nonnative sport fishes) in the 400 yards below Kenney Reservoir that still has limits in 2013. Recovery Program supports multi-agency effort to designate White River as native fish conservation area.	CPW, UDWR		White River smallmouth bass removal conducted by Service & CPW; additional electric seining pending. CPW has prepared an issue paper on the bag limit for Commission consideration in this regulation cycle.
Colorado River				
14	Recovery Program participants will consider options and opportunities for meeting flow recommendations on a more consistent basis after completion of 10,825 agreements.	Program		
15	The CWCB will provide the depletion accounting for 2006-2010 for the Upper Colorado River using State CU in the spring of 2012. If the amount of consumptive use, location of use, and timing of use is not the same as in the past, they would then put that information into StateMod to show how those changes affect the river.	CWCB	June 2012	
16	Completion of CFOPS Phase III should be out in draft in August 2012 and report completion anticipated by September 30, 2012.	Water users	September 30, 2012.	
17	In 2012, additional passes will be devoted in the reach of the Colorado River from Rifle to the Beavertail to remove invading northern pike. CPW will conduct a reconnaissance in floodplain & canal habitats to identify potential sources of this species. Sampling will also be conducted from Silt to Rifle to remove northern pike.	FWS, CPW	Service, CPW	Additional passes in progress.
Gunnison River				
18	Every effort should be made to ensure that the Gunnison River remains a native fish stronghold. The topic of precluding new species introductions also will be addressed in the draft Nonnative Fish Strategy.	Program		See item #2 re: <i>Basinwide Strategy</i> .
Dolores River				
19	The Nonnative Fish Subcommittee will review response options and propose action item(s) to be reviewed with the Dolores River Dialogue and Lower Dolores Working Group and potentially added to the RIPRAP in 2013.	NNFSC, others.	January 2013.	

Attachment 3

2012 Evening Social & BBQ Event

On the Patio at 7535 Jessica Drive

August 7th beginning at 5:45 p.m.

Meal will be served at 6:45 p.m.

Campfire to be lit at Dusk

Event to end when y'all get tired

PLEASE R.S.V.P. IN ADVANCE by contacting John Shields via e-mail: john.shields@wyo.gov or by calling me at 307-631-0898 or 307-777-6151. THANKS.

Per head charge to cover the meal and supplies cost is \$15.00 per person; funds will be collected at the Management Committee meeting on August 7th.



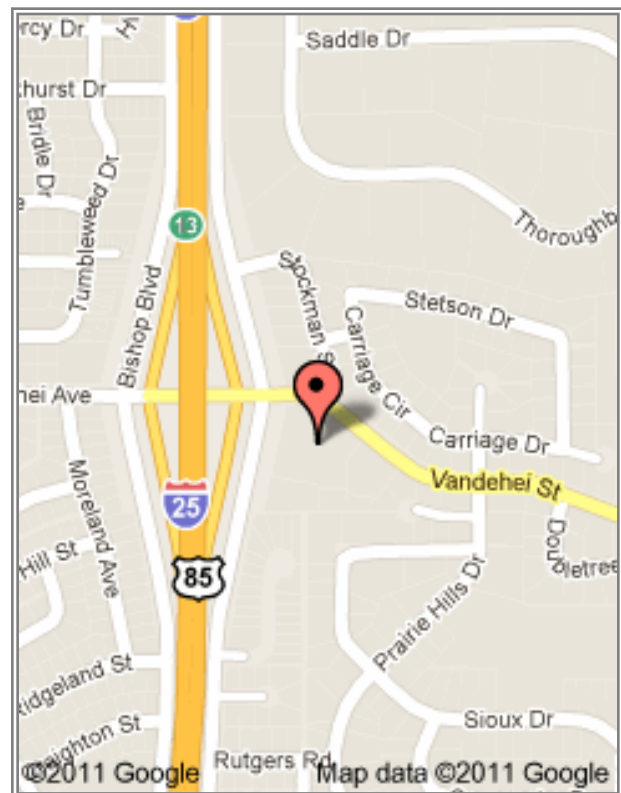
Light appetizers will be served prior to the meal.

This year's Catered Dinner will be delivered at 6:45 pm and will feature Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Beef Brisket, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad and Baked Beans.

Iced tea, bottled water and coffee will be provided – feel free to bring a beverage (BYOB).

An excellent and convenient choice for beverage shopping is conveniently located in the small shopping marketplace just east of the (Exit 13) Vandehei Avenue interchange off of I-25 (where you will be exiting to come over to our house). *Vinos Wine and Spirits* is located at 453 Vandehei Ave # 200. Once you exit I-25, turn right (to the east - you will see the Fitness One sign on the tall building) and *Vinos* establishment is at the east end of the small shopping marketplace on the South side of Vandehei Avenue.

Vinos has a good selection, however, for the hard to please and just plain difficult members of the Committee, the largest selection of beers and wines in the entire State of Wyoming can be found at Town and Country Supermarket Liquors, located at 614 South Greeley Highway.



Driving directions from Little America Hotel to the BBQ event are provided here:

Trip to 7535 Jessica Dr
Cheyenne, WY 82009-1164
6.34 miles - about 9 minutes

Little America Hotels & Rsrts - (307) 775-8400
2800 W Lincolnway, Cheyenne, WY 82001

1. Start out going **SOUTHWEST** on **W LINCOLNWAY / I-80 BL W / US-30 W / OTTO RD.** Continue to follow **W LINCOLNWAY / OTTO RD.** go 0.2 mi
2. Make a **U-TURN** onto **I-80 BL E / US-30 E / W LINCOLNWAY / OTTO RD.** go 0.8 mi
3. Merge onto **I-25 N / US-87 N** via the ramp on the **LEFT.** [Map](#) go 4.3 mi
4. Take the **VANDEHEI AVENUE** exit, **EXIT 13.** go 0.2 mi
5. Turn **LEFT** onto **VANDEHEI AVE.** go 0.1 mi
6. Turn **RIGHT** onto **BISHOP BLVD.** go 0.4 mi
7. Turn **LEFT** onto **BRITTANY DR.** go 0.3 mi
8. Turn **RIGHT** onto **JESSICA DR.** go 0.1 mi
9. **7535 JESSICA DR** is on the **RIGHT.** go 0.0 mi

7535 Jessica Dr, Cheyenne, WY 82009-1164
Total Travel Estimate : 6.34 miles - about 9 minutes

Start Map [Hide](#)
A: Little America Hotels & Rsrts, 2800 W Lincolnway, Cheyenne, WY 82001

End Map [Hide](#)
B: 7535 Jessica Dr, Cheyenne, WY 82009-1164